

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A method of extracting pertinent information from an information data base ~~taking into account the objective and the target~~, comprising the steps of:

identifying an objective to be attained from a target;

characterizing the target as a function of the identified objective;

defining target parameters based upon the characterized target and applying weights to these parameters based upon importance;

selecting a database comprising information pertaining to the target and the identified objective;

evaluating target preferences based upon the database information as a function of criteria specific to the target;

allocating weights to the evaluated target preferences;

applying a morphological filter to database information; and

extracting at least one element that is pertinent to both the target and the objective~~acquiring information base is, identifying the target and the objective, determining values applicable to the target weighting values according to their importance in relation to the target, that each of the information items of the information base is successively examined, evaluating preferences or degrees of importance of each of these information items according to at least one criterion dependent on the target, such that each information item is weighted by allocating to it at least one value, that, on the basis of the values thus weighted, a morphological filter, dependent on the objective and on the target, is applied to the values associated with the information of~~

~~the base, and thereafter an identification of the pertinent elements of the base is effected so as to match the filtered values up with the elements of the base and that these pertinent elements are extracted.~~

2. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the filter is a distance or a metric.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in ~~claim 3~~claim 1, wherein the ~~values~~weights allocated to each information item to be searched in the database are obtained by semi-automatic analysis, by an operator or by an expert.

5. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pertinent elements are ranked by order of pertinence.

6. (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the evaluation of the preferences ~~or degrees of importance~~ is effected in a numerical manner.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the pertinent elements are ranked by order of pertinence.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the pertinent elements are ranked by order of pertinence.